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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

S-E-C-R-E-T

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY USSR (Ukrainian SSR)

REPORT

SUBJECT Chemical Plant near Saki in the Western Crimea

DATE DISTR. 5 April 1960

NO. PAGES 2

REFERENCES RD

DATE OF INFO.

50X1-HUM

PLACE & DATE ACQ.

50X1-HUM

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. A chemical plant was located about three km to the west of Saki (N 45-08, E 33-36) in the western Crimea and about one km to the south of the main Simferopol-Yevpatoriya road. The plant was about 42 km by road from Simferopol and 20 km from Yevpatoriya. In 1956, the plant had a three-digit number [redacted] and it was under military control. 50X1-HUM
2. The plant director was a Soviet colonel-general, who wore a khaki uniform with two red lines down the side of the trousers and a blue line between them. There were three stars of his gold shoulder boards and silver braid piping round the edge. His khaki cap had laurel leaves on the peak. The director had several Soviet officers under him, who also wore uniforms.
3. This chemical plant existed before World War II and was then referred to as a "Bron (phonetic) Zavod". In 1947, a scientific research team arrived at the plant and remained there until the end of 1949. In 1950, a military unit began reconstruction and enlargement of the factory and in 1956, although work within the factory appeared to have been completed, building of workers' dwellings to the east of the plant was still in progress. It was considered to be a very important establishment and there were only two

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STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	NSA	X	FBI		NIC	X	ORR/EV	X
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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

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S-E-C-R-E-T

-2-

similar ones in the entire USSR, one near Vladivostok and the other near Krasnyy Perelep (sic), although this [these were?] was not as large or important as the one at Saki, on which large sums of money were spent during the course of reconstruction.²

4. The Saki plant had some association with unspecified military factories in the Urals. On one occasion the plant director was overheard to complain to the chairman of the Soviet of the Crimean region that some "apparatus" he had been expecting from the Urals had not been delivered to the plant.
5. The plant was served by a single-track rail spur, about three km long, from Kara Tobe /Pribrezhnaya, N 45-01, E 33-30/ station and another single-track spur, about one and one-half km long, from Saki station. Trains consisting of about 50 four-axle closed freight cars were observed traveling along these rail spurs and seven shunting engines were kept at the plant for moving them. There was a heavy traffic of military trucks in and out of the plant, their loads always being tarpaulin-covered.

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6. [redacted] the plant area description [redacted] refers to: a. four pyramid-shaped heaps of what appeared to be damp, reddish mud or earth, each of which was said to contain more than 2,000 tons of material; b. two large square tanks, surrounded by a 25-cm high brick wall, which were full of reddish substance; and c. square tanks, about 300 m square with wood linings and 25-30cm high outer brick walls, which were built in a lake and which contained a liquid that periodically changed color (from greenish-blue; to bright blue, to dark green, and finally to blood red).

[redacted] Comments:

50X1-HUM

1. A bromine plant has previously been identified in Saki.
2. Krasnyy Perelep could not be identified. A Krasnyy Perekop is located in Krasnodar Kray and another in the Ukrainian SSR.

50X1-HUM

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5. The plant was served by a single-track rail spur, about three km long, from Kara Tobe /Pribrezhnaya, N 45-01, E 33-307 station and another single-track spur, about one and one-half km long, from Saki station. Trains consisting of about 50 four-axle closed freight cars were observed traveling along these rail spurs and seven shunting engines were kept at the plant for moving them. There was a heavy traffic of military trucks in and out of the plant, their loads always being tarpaulin-covered.

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50X1-HUM

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REPORT

COUNTRY:

USSR

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SUBJECT:

Chemical Plant near SAKI in West CRIMEA.

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24th February, 1960.

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SCIENTIFIC/MILITARY/ECONOMIC

Chemical Plant near SAKI in West CRIMEA.Location, Name and Control

1. There is an important chemical plant located about 3 kms. to the west of SAKI in West CRIMEA and about 1 km. to the south of the main road from SIMFEROPOL to EVPATORIA. It is about 42 kms. by road from SIMFEROPOL and 20 kms. by road from EVPATORIA.

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2. In 1956 the plant had a 3-figure number [redacted]

[redacted] and was under military control,

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3. The Director was a Soviet Colonel General, who wore a khaki uniform with two red lines down the side of the trousers and a blue line between them. There were three stars on his gold-coloured shoulder boards and silver braid piping round the edge. His khaki cap had laurel leaves on the peak. The Director had several Soviet officers under him, who also wore uniform.

History

4. This chemical plant existed before World War II and was then referred to as a "Bron (phonetic) Zavod". In 1947 a scientific research team arrived at the plant and remained there until the end of 1949. In 1950 a military unit began reconstruction and enlargement of the factory and in 1956, although work within the factory appeared to have been completed, building of workers' dwellings to the east of the plant was still in progress.

5. It was considered to be a very important establishment and there were only two similar ones in the whole of the U.S.S.R., one near VLADIVOSTOCK and the other near KRASNY PEREOP, although this was not as large or important as the one at SAKI, on which large sums of money were spent during the course of reconstruction.

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Description and Layout of the Plant

6. The plant covered an area of about 2 x 4 kms. and was surrounded by a brick wall about 4 m. high. The approximate layout is shown on the plan at Appendix A. At No. 5 there were two buildings roughly equivalent in height to a 6-storey building but with [redacted]

50X1-HUM

SECRET

- 2 -

24th February, 1960.

50X1-HUM

7. The circular brick chimneys at Nos. 10 and 11 rose from ground level and stood about 6 m. away from buildings Nos. 2 and 5 respectively. Those at No. 10 were about 50 to 60 m. high and those at No. 11 about 35 to 40 m. high. ✓ Usually all the chimneys smoked, the smoke being fairly thick and whitish in colour.

8. At Nos. 9 on Appendix A, were four pyramid-shaped heaps of what ✓ appeared to be damp, reddish mud or earth, each of which was said to contain more than 2,000 tons of material.

9. The round water tank at No. 8 was made of metal and was mounted on a metal tower. It was from 4 to 5 m. deep and had a diameter of 8 to 10 m. There were two large square tanks at Nos. 6, surrounded by an outer brick wall about 25 cms. high, lined on the inside with wood. They were full of ✓ a reddish substance, similar in colour to the heaps at Nos. 9, but appeared to be more liquid than the heaps, as the surface of the tanks reflected the sun.

10. The towers at Nos. 12 consisted of four iron legs let into concrete blocks at ground level and were about 50 m. high. On top of each tower was a vertical rod, about 4 or 5 m. long, made of bright metal. From the base of each rod a cable ran down the side of the tower to the ground. The rods were similar in appearance to lightning conductors.

Installations outside the Plant Site

11. These installations are shown on the plan at Appendix B. The housing blocks (Nos. 7 on Appendix B.) consisted mainly of 4-storey buildings, each with three entrances on to the road. Cinema shows were given in the Club at No. 8, together with lectures to the workers on science, politics, the world situation, atomic energy, the working of uranium and civil defence measures.

12. The tanks at Nos. 11 were each about 300 m. square and were surrounded by a low brick wall about 25 cms. high, lined on the inside with wood. Each tank was divided into four compartments with the exception of that at No. 11a, which was divided into two. Tank No. 11a and the four next to

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50X1-HUM

SECRET

- 3 -

24th February, 1960

50X1-HUM

it were built in the lake at No. 12 and were surrounded by water. All the tanks contained a liquid which changed colour periodically. It started as a greenish blue like the sea, about 10 days later had become bright blue, 10 days later dark green and finally 10 days after that blood red. This last colour was similar to that of the liquid in the tanks at No. 6 on Appendix A, within the plant.

13. No. 17 on Appendix B, represents a water canal with wooden sides and about 2 m. wide, which passed under a bridge at No. 16 carrying a road. The canal appeared to feed the tanks at No. 11, but did not continue farther north than the two tanks to the north of the bridge. Between these two tanks and the EVPATORIA - SIMFEROPOL road at No. 1 was a boggy area covered with patches of reddish coloured grass, on which no animals ever grazed. (No. 18)

14. The water from the well at No. 20 was sweetish and unpleasant to the taste, but was used to fill car radiators. The driver of one car was told by a factory worker that he should not drink this water, but that it would do no damage to the radiator as it was not salty. Beside the well was a drinking trough, but animals refused to drink the water there and from about 1951 onwards had to be taken to another trough near SAKI railway station.

15. At No. 10 on Appendix B. was a sanatorium or spa for both military and civilians, where mud baths were given for rheumatism. The mud for the baths was taken from the lake at No. 12a, but bathing in the lake was strictly forbidden.

Association with other Factories

16. This chemical plant had some association with unspecified military factories in the URALS. On one occasion the plant Director was overheard to complain to the Chairman of the Soviet of the Crimean Region that some "apparatus" he had been expecting from the URALS, had not been delivered to the plant.

50X1-HUM

SECRET

- 4 -

24th February, 1960Production

17. It is not known what the plant produced. It was once said that experts employed there had been trying to extract crop fertilizer from the residue of the tanks at Nos. 11 on Appendix B., but without any success.

Electric Power Supply

18. Electric power was supplied to the plant from the sub-station at No. 21 on Appendix B., which in turn received high tension current from SEBASTOPOL. The sub-station was built in about 1950.

19. In 1953 work was started on replacing the wooden pylons carrying the power cables from the sub-station to the plant by metal pylons on four stands let into concrete blocks. This work was completed by the end of 1954. The main high tension supply from SEBASTOPOL was carried on similar pylons with only 3 cables, while the new line from the sub-station to the plant was carried on 6 cables, 3 on each of the two arms of the pylons.

Rail and Road Transport

20. The plant was served by a single-track rail spur (No. 14 on Appendix B.) about 3 kms. long from KARA - TOBY station and another single-

✓ track spur (No. 13) about $1\frac{1}{2}$ kms. long from SAKI station. Trains consisting of about 50 four-axled closed goods [] were observed travelling along these rail spurs and 7 shunting engines were kept at the plant for moving them. It is not known where these [] came from, nor are any details of their loads available.

21. Another line at No. 15 ran from KARA - TOBY station round the south of the lakes at Nos. 12 and 12a, between them and the sea. It led to the SAKI military airfield about 5 kms. south-south-west of the plant.

✓ 22. There was a heavy traffic of military [] entering and leaving the plant, their loads always being covered with tarpaulins.

Security

23. The plant was guarded by members of the Okhrana.

50X1-HUM

SECRET

- 5 -

24th February, 1960

50X1-HUM

Medical Facilities

24. The plant had its own hospital reserved only for the workers and was completely self-contained as regards medical services, laundry and shops.

Visitors

25. The plant was visited on several occasions by the Chairman of the Soviet of the Crimean region, and officials from MOSCOW, whose names and functions are not known.

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KEY TO APPENDIX A.

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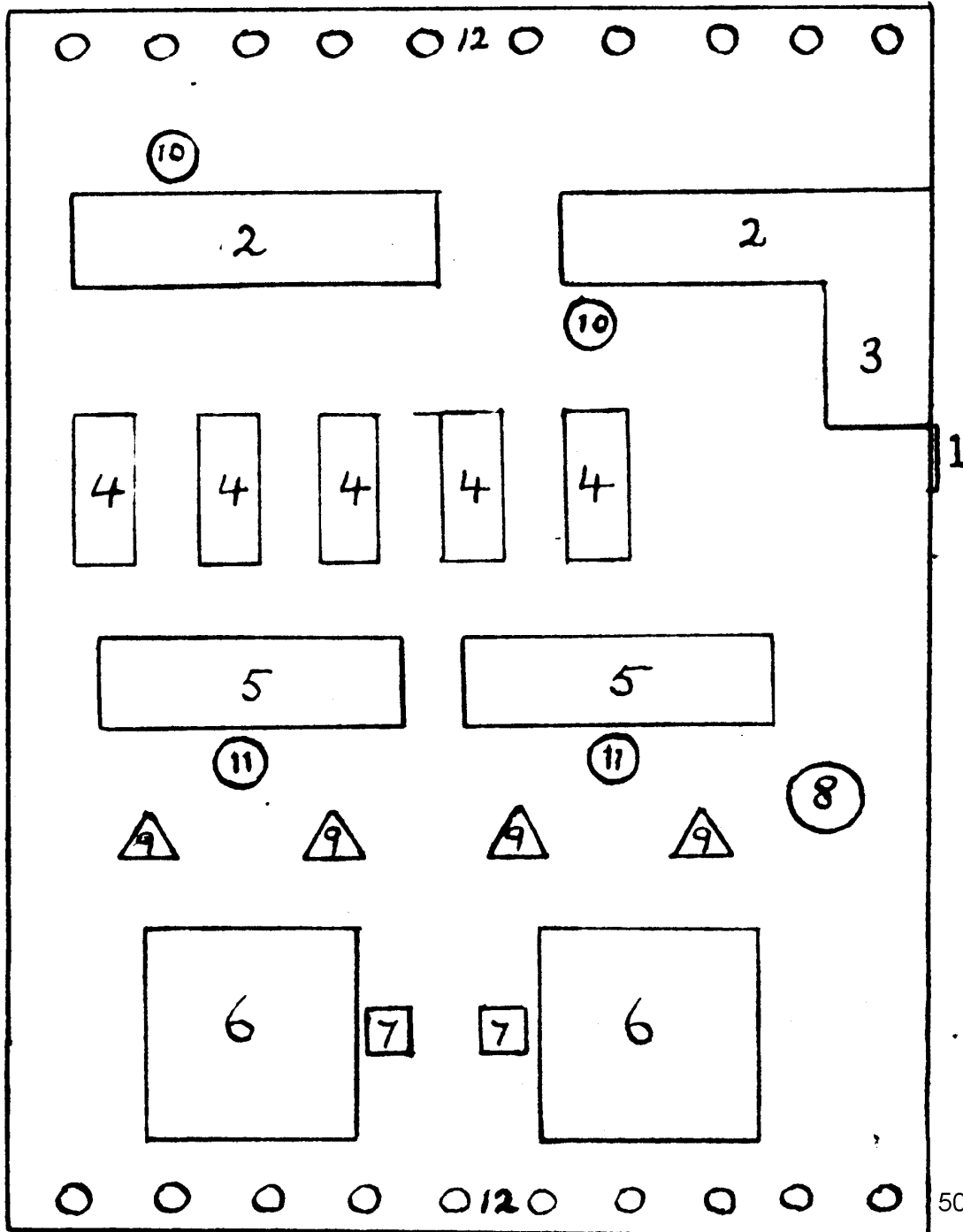
1. Entrance to plant
2. 6-storey brick buildings, 100 x 40 m.
3. 4-storey office building, 50 x 20 m.
4. 4-storey buildings, 75 x 30 m.
5. 6-storey buildings, 95 x 50 m.
6. Tanks
7. Pumping Stations
8. Round Water Tower
9. Pyramid-shaped dumps of reddish mud
10. Brick chimneys, 50 to 60 m. high
11. Brick chimneys, about 40 m. high
12. Towers

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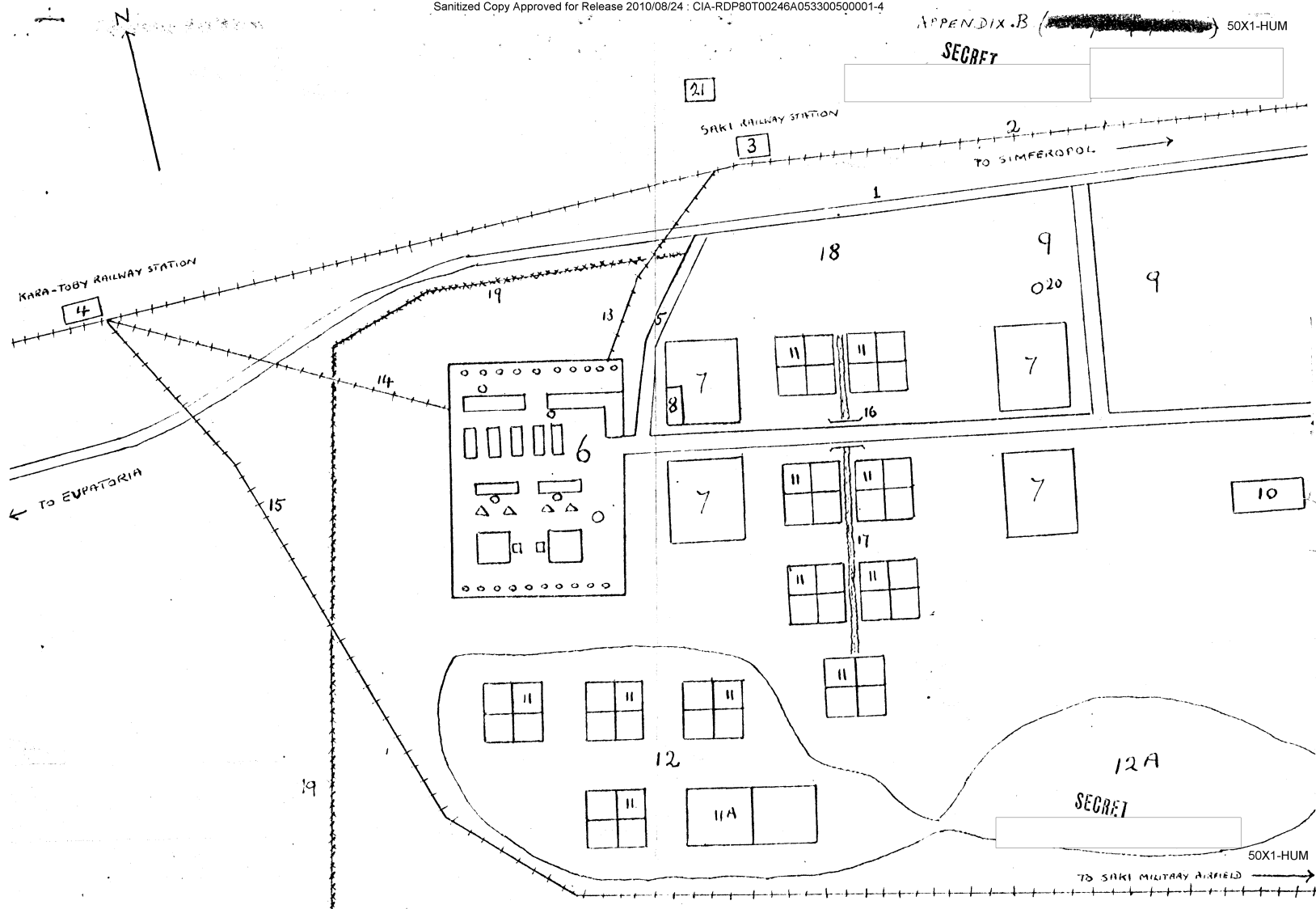
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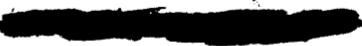


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**KEY TO APPENDIX B.** 

1. Main road from SIMFEROPOL to SVPATORIA
2. Railway " " " "
3. SAKI Railway Station
4. KARA - TOBY Railway Station
5. Road to Chemical Plant
6. Chemical Plant
7. Housing blocks for plant workers
8. Club
9. Town of SAKI
10. Sanatorium or Spa
11. Tanks
12. Lake
- 12a. Lake
13. Single-track rail spur to plant
14. " " " " " "
15. Railway line to SAKI Military Airfield
16. Bridge
17. Water Channel
18. Area of discoloured grass
19. Barbed wire fence
20. Well
21. Electric sub-station

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